PROJECT TITLE	:	INSTRUMENTATION AND PROCESS AUTOMATION
PERIOD COVERED	:	APRIL 23 - JUNE 22 1981
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Distribution of Instruments

The PDI/DDI instruments, USA model, from Weltab and Bergen have been transformed to correspond to the instruments of the other affiliates. The transformation consisted of placing a new measuring head and a board with amplifiers in the system in order to simplify the calibration procedures.

New Prototypes

At the present time, an automatic loader for the Filtrona machines (Ø, RTD, Dil) is being built. Special attention is being paid to its mechanical conception. Automatic loading of cigarette batches at the entry of the instrument will lead to considerable time saving in routine checks.

A servo-circuit has also been developed for the smoking pumps from Battelle. The transformation of these pumps consisted of installing a new dc motor with a tachymetric generator. The signal emitted by this generator enables very precise feed-back control of the speed of the motor. The servo-circuit may be fitted with a setting point which enables the puff volume on the smoking machines to be adjusted exactly.

Data Treatment for QC-FTR

A detailed list of specifications has been established for the development of programmes for acquisition and treatment of routine RTD-dilution measurements. The data for the various brands and production units will be introduced onto the keyboard of a mini HP 85-type computer. The latter will keep up to date statistics for each group which will be presented in graphic form. The daily results will be stored on magnetic tapes in order to establish a monthly report for each brand.

It is planned to establish a direct link between the RTD/Dil measuring instrument and the calculator.

Automation of the Smoking Laboratory

Project COLDAC (Computerized Laboratory Data Acquisition)

A complete edition of the specifications of this project is being prepared with the various users. At a seminar held on June 19 1981, the users were given detailed information on the characteristics of the hardware used and the features of the software supplied by Hewlett-Packard.

The "Bar Code" system proposed for the identification of
samples in the laboratory was also presented at this meeting.
A 9-character   alphanumeric code (code 39) would seem to
satisfy the needs of the various users.

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